## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAL

ORIGINAL

RE: CC Docket Nos. 97-21, 96-45

December 6, 2005

ECC - WAITHOOM

DEC 1 \$ 5002

BECEINED & INSPECTED

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

The members of the Telecommunications Association of Michigan strongly support the nomination of Edwin Eichler, President of Pigeon Telephone Company, to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors.

As you know, USAC's mission is to ensure access to telecommunication services for consumers in rural and high-cost areas, and to promote access to advanced services for schools, libraries, and health care service providers in rural areas. Mr. Eichler is a strong advocate for rural America and has shared his telephony expertise with USAC by serving on its Executive and Audit Committees. Mr. Eichler has also served on numerous industry Boards and committees at both the state and national levels, which provides him with a broad view of issues and a tremendous amount of experience.

The Board of Directors of the Telecommunications Association of Michigan has unanimously supported Mr. Eichler's nomination because they believe that USAC's Board of Directors needs to retain knowledgeable, dedicated people to help it succeed. USAC's success is critical to every customer that benefits from universal service programs. We urge you to re-appoint Mr. Eichler to another term on the USAC Board of Directors.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Scott Stevenson

President

CC: Senator Car Levin

Senator Debbie Stabenow

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